Mehsana-Viramgam BG rail line

2888. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the projected time period by which the Mehsana-Viramgam rail line would be fully operational as a broad gauge line; and

(b) the details of funds provided to achieve the said objective in relation to the projected time period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) The target date for conversion of Viramgam-Mehsana has not yet been fixed. However, the section is expected to be converted to broad gauge by 2003-2004, depending upon progress of BOT contractor which is yet to be finalized. The approximate expenditure incurred on this project upto 31.3.2002 is Rs. 15.89 crores and an outlay of Rs. 1.00 crore is proposed in budget 2002-2003.

Rail Booking for return journey in Jharkhand

2889. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway stations and city booking offices in Jharkhand, where booking facility of return rail journey, through computer terminal, is available at present;

(b) whether Government are aware of the hardships being faced by the people in the absence of adequate return rail journey facilities in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when sufficient number of such booking facility would be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) Computerised reservation centres are provided at 24 Stations/locations in